



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of Maine*

100 Middle Street

(207) 780-3257

*6th Floor, East Tower
Portland, ME 04101*

TTY (207) 780-3060

Fax (207) 780-3304

www.usdoj.gov/usao/me

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Contact: Paula D. Silsby
United States Attorney
Tel: 771-3225

Virginia Tech Anniversary Prompts Maine Campus Security Training

Portland, Maine: United States Attorney Paula D. Silsby announced today that Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Maine hosted a campus security training in Augusta last Friday in recognition of the upcoming anniversary of the school shootings at Virginia Tech University.

In conjunction with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Maine State Police, and the Maine College and University Security Directors Association (MCUSDA), PSN Maine sponsored training at the Maine Department of Public Safety in Augusta which covered threat assessment and risk analysis planning, federal firearms laws, prevention, preparedness and communication, and a demonstration by the Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT) of the Maine State Police. The training also included education on identifying warning signs for domestic violence.

Executive Director Bonnie Blythe of the Maine Citizens Against Handgun Violence stated, "The first anniversary of the mass shootings at Virginia Tech University tragically reminds us of the need for such trainings, however, this statewide initiative is a welcome step toward a coordinated community response to prevent gun violence in Maine."

United States Attorney Silsby said the training was well attended and that nearly every Maine college and university was represented. She said PSN Maine plans to continue hosting this type of training to maintain a high level of awareness on Maine's campuses.

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